

The PLANET

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JACK JOHNSON.

Behold the brawn of Ethiopian years
In concentrated form and courage true;
The glint of many centuries here appears
To make in this a man to dare and do.
The vulture wing of trembling fear has flown
And left full-master sinew, nerve and bone.
Behold, to-day, vibrating human life!
Yea, ye who moan likewise as those who joy
For from the proven crucible of strife
The gold glows in its worth above alloy.
We've seen unhampered fairness have its way
And smile upon its favorite in the fray.
Loved Lincoln's pen proclaimed a people free
And quickly dropped in stillness of grim death.
But bitterness has marred sweet liberty
And hushed the breathing of a privileged breath.
A servant mind has gathered strength to show
This Independence Proclaimed blow.
Courageous strength of mind must build the man
To hew his way to giant's chosen place;
He who would conquer in the loftiest plan
Must mount the highest thought of any race.
True worth is ever striving to its height—
The city on a towering hill of light.
Jack Johnson, we have waited long for you
To grow our prayers into this single blow.
Today we place upon your wreath the dew
Of tears, the wordless gratitude we owe.
We kiss the perspiration from your face
And give unbounded love in our embrace.
—LUCIAN B. WATKINS.

National Negro Political League Issues Call.

The following call has been issued by the National Political League, which has members and branches in thirty states:

To Colored Americans and their Fellow Countrymen, Greetings:—

By vote of the Executive Committee and by order of the President this call of the National Independent (formerly Negro-American) Political League is issued for the third annual meeting at Atlantic City, New Jersey, August 4th and 5th, 1910.

This national convention of Colored citizens is called under what grave conditions touching the object of this organization, the supreme aim of which is to maintain and secure for all Colored Americans the same rights and privileges as are enjoyed by the other citizens of these United States of America? In the southern states 95 per cent. of the nine million Colored citizens of the United States are deprived of the exercise of the ballot, the fundamental right under our system of government, without which there is for citizens neither protection nor freedom. This rape of the ballot is consummated in plain violation of the national constitution which forbids denial of the right to vote because of race or color. The executive head of the federal government within sixteen months officially admitted this disfranchisement in inaugural address and palliated the violation of the federal constitution instead of declaring his purpose to enforce the law in obedience to the oath he had just solemnly taken. President William H. Taft even intimated the legality of those devices for nullifying the 15th amendment by state laws which are as much worse than fraudulent practices as law is stronger than custom. The legislative branch of the federal government, specifically clothed with power to enforce the suffrage articles of the constitution, has viewed with apathy and inaction their flagrant violation save when actively condoning it by seating congressmen elected under the violation as against contestants entitled to seats if the federal law had been obeyed in their districts in the South. The judicial branch has dodged the issue in all cases brought involving southern disfranchisement laws, thus by persistent refusal of relief strengthening the nullification and emboldening the nullifiers of the supreme law of the land.

In view of the very nature of our republican institutions, as well as

of the declared reasons for our existence as an independent government, is not this condition sufficiently serious to twelve millions of Colored Americans to justify and necessitate a national convention and sufficiently alarming to all believers in our country's destiny and defenders of her democracy and of her fair name to compel their sympathy and support?

But what train of evils were let loose upon Colored Americans with disfranchisement! In the southern states unequal and oppressive laws have destroyed all their civil rights, excluding them from public places of business, of accommodation, or resort, even public parks and public libraries, barring from state, quasi-public and the public schools forcing them into separate and inferior schools, fastening upon them the public ignominy and caste stigma of segregation in public travel, casting them even into peonage. They are under the tyranny of taxation without representation. Left in that hapless and helpless condition of citizens without voice as to law-maker, law-enforcer, or law interpreter, they are not only the victims of injustice in the courts, but denied all trial by court or jury, are the prey of the fiendish white mob, until now the almost daily lynching of human beings has disgraced our country before the civilized world.

Inevitably this race persecution infects the north. Color prejudice is on the increase. Discrimination based on color in civil rights and in economic opportunities is gaining ground. Jim-crow cars have reached the borders of the national capital, twice color disfranchisement has raised its horrid head above Mason and Dixon's line, while bloody race riots and barbarous lynchings have reached up to Illinois, even to the home of the martyred Lincoln.

Most harmful and portentous of all in this crusade of race hate and color prejudice is the action, under the present administration, of the federal government itself. For the first time in the United States a president has officially proclaimed color a political disability. By his declaration that he would not appoint Colored citizens to office where white citizens objected, he completed southern disfranchisement. It is Colored soldiers who are the victims when for the first time a battalion is discharged wholesale and without trial because of an alleged affair with civilians, and the new departure aggravated by the failure to establish individual guilt after trial is boldly continued. That unique degradation of free citizens, segregation by color in public carriers, has been sanctioned and nationalized by a federal commission, while the federal court in support declares the right of even an interstate railroad to segregate Colored passengers.

Unless one-eighth of the citizens of the United States are to be reduced to political serfdom, unless our Republic is to abandon democracy for the caste of color, this present trend must be resolutely opposed. Graver crisis in a Republic could hardly be. Colored Americans, rally to your own defense. From every town and city send delegates to this annual meeting, there to deliberate and organize for self-protection against this menace. And let all true patriots of whatever race, all friends of liberty, battle with us for equality of citizenship, for true democracy, that this may be in a very truth the home of the brave and the land of the free.

By order of the President,
ALEXANDER WALTERS,
WM. MONROE TROTTER,
Corresponding Secretary.
June 22, 1910, 21 Cornhill, Boston, Mass.

The Roof Garden.

The management announces that the roof garden of the new Mechanics' Savings Bank will be open to the public every day in the week and in the evenings until further notice. This is the coolest place in the city and families will find it a most pleasant retreat from the sultry air of this season of the year.

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT.

Deane—Scott.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. P. Scott announce the marriage of their daughter, Celestine O. to Mr. William L. Deane, Tuesday, July 5, 1910.
At home Tuesday, July 10, 1910 from 8:00 to 11:00 P. M. at 1016 St. John Street, Richmond, Va. Friends invited.

Dr. J. Alexander Lewis Opens There.

Dr. J. Alexander Lewis has leased an office in the new Mechanics' Savings Bank building on the fourth floor. He will be ready for business next week.

ECHOES FROM GREAT FIGHT.

Jack Johnson Travels in Style--Was Offered Over \$300,000 to Fake the Fight--Wouldn't Give Up the Desire of a Life-time.

THE TAP OF THE GONG WAS MUSIC TO HIM.

Chicago, July 9.—Jack Johnson was offered a large sum of money to lay down to Jim Jeffries. Johnson declared that this was the reason for the break between him and his former manager, George Little. Little tried to show Johnson where he would benefit financially by throwing the fight to Jeffries, but the champion refused even to listen to such a proposition.

Little would not name the persons in the deal, but intimated that they were connected closely with the Jeffries camp.

At Johnson's refusal to lay down, Little abused him, and a wordy war followed. The dispute wound up with Johnson discharging his manager on the spot, and asking assistance from the San Francisco authorities to keep Little away from his camp.

Following his discharge, Johnson

first, and then proceed to whip me afterward.

"I have some good chances to go to Europe, but I think the thirty weeks in vaudeville will suit me better. Guess I will have to 'quit,' though, whether I want to or not."

"Did you hear about the picture men's trouble?" he was asked.

"Yes," he answered; "but it doesn't bother me. They all told me I was a fool to sell for \$50,000, but they thought I could not whip Jeffries, too."

After illustrating the manner in which he "turned the trick" with a reporter representing Jeffries, much to the discomfort of the reporter, he said:

"The fight is over; let's forget it."

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS Officers to be Installed.

The Ebenezer Baptist Church will be the scene of a brilliant gathering of Knights of Pythias, N. A. S. A., E. A. A. and A. when more than six hundred officers of the male and female departments are installed next Tuesday night. The exercises will be interesting as the new laws recently enacted at the Grand Lodge and Grand Court session at Bristol will be explained.

Grand Chancellor John Mitchell, Jr. will conduct the exercises. The meeting at Bristol was one of the most successful in the history of the Order.

—Subscribe to The PLANET.

James J. Jeffries After Knockout Blow and Other Scenes in Jack Johnson's Victory at Reno, Nev.



Upper left hand picture shows Johnson and Jeffries in a clinch. Upper right hand picture shows "Billy" Jordan, the official announcer introducing Johnson to the audience. Lower picture shows Jeffries in the 15th round, "all in down and out" after the knockout blow had been delivered.

says that Little circulated stories that the champion was not training, and was in no condition to defend his title against Jeffries.

Johnson is going to spend the next few days taking things easy. Nothing but automobile for him until Sunday, when he leaves for New York to open his theatrical engagements.

When Johnson was asked what he intended to do about Sam Langford's challenge, and his mother's statement that he was through fighting, he said:

"Glad to be asked all at once," he replied, "cause I can say 'I don't know to it all. I have enough money to last me till next week, and I am going to find out what's doing before I do anything. Sam Langford or any one else had better get his money up

Offices Occupied.

Dr. E. R. Jefferson, the well-known and popular physician and surgeon has leased a suite of rooms in the new Mechanics' Savings Bank building on the third floor and has furnished them in palatial style. He proposes to introduce X-Ray treatment and to practice the latest methods in the treatment of stubborn and peculiar diseases.

Dr. H. L. Harris Jr., a well-known young physician will be associated with him.

Ex-Recorder Dancy Here.

Hon. John C. Dancy, ex-Recorder

of Deeds of the District of Columbia and one of the most prominent colored men in the country was in the city last Thursday. He is looking well and takes a most hopeful view so far as it relates to the colored people of the country. He spoke at the Mechanics' Bank Roof Garden last Thursday night and as we go to press Thursday afternoon, we were unable to get a report for this issue.

FOR SALE—PROSPEROUS CONfectionery and restaurant business, doing \$500 month business; location, transfer point, 2817 P Street. Cheap for cash. Address B., care Mechanics' Savings Bank, Third and Clay.

5TH ST. BAPT. CHURCH.

Located, Cor. 5th and Jackson Sts., RICHMOND, VA.

Weekly News Column.

REV. W. F. GRAHAM, D. D., Pastor.
Residence:
108 E. Leigh St., Richmond, Va.
J. HENRY CRUTCHFIELD, Editor,
Office:
1215 E. Broad St., Richmond, Va.

Services at Fifth Street Baptist Church last Sunday were good. Rev. Dr. R. Spiller preached morning and night. He has successfully occupied the pulpit during the absence of our pastor, Dr. W. F. Graham, who has been out of the city since June 29, 1910. Dr. Spiller is an original thinker and fine pulpit orator. We wish him God-speed in his ministry.

Rev. Dr. W. F. Graham will return home during this week and will occupy his pulpit next Sunday, July 17, 1910. A grand time is expected. The Doctor will preach his first sermon since the anniversary. Let the members and friends turn out in large numbers to hear him.

The Fifth Street Baptist Church and Pastor rejoice with the Fourth Baptist Church and its Pastor over the success which the Fourth Baptist Church had in the thirtieth anniversary of its pastor, the Rev. Dr. Evans Payne. We are proud to learn that it raised \$1,882.49 during its anniversary exercises, and that its new pipe organ will be ready by Monday night, July 25, 1910, at which time it will have an organ recital. We pray that God will continue to bless the church and that its pastor, Rev. Dr. Evans Payne will live long to lead and guide under the Holy Spirit.

(The Fifth Street Baptist Sunday School was opened Sunday morning at 10 o'clock A. M. by Supt. Prof. B. H. Peyton. A large number of teachers, officers and scholars were present with bright countenances. Arrangements are being made for the annual basket picnic. The time and place will be given later. Bro. James Wall by request sang a sweet solo which was enjoyed by all present. The school is still progressing along all lines. Let all be on time next Sunday.—E. W.)

Don't forget prayer service on Wednesday night. These meetings are growing each week. Come out next Wednesday night. Pastor will be present. Good things are in store.

At 8 P. M. meeting Friday nights of each week. Be on time next Friday night. President John W. Howard wants to see all the members. Come on time at 8:30 o'clock.

Fourth Baptist Church Anniversary.

The occasion of the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of Rev. Evans Payne, D. D., was a grand and glorious success in every particular.

Great sermons were preached by Rev. C. T. Martin, B. Th., Rev. N. J. Brown, B. Th., Drs. A. S. Thomas, W. H. Stokes, W. T. Johnson and R. V. Peyton.

To this point on Monday night the 11th inst. the church had collected \$19.33 and more clubs are to be heard from and it is predicted that by the time the organ recital comes off, which is to take place on the 25th inst. that this amount will be swelled to twenty-three or twenty-four hundred dollars.

This recital will be given by Captain F. W. Cunningham.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

Prof. E. T. Pollard conducted the musical program last Friday evening. It was a great hit. The storm did not discourage the men.

The meetings in the city home last Sunday produced good results. One inmate accepted Christ.

The good work by the committee still goes on in the city jail. Five prisoners were led to accept Jesus Christ as their Personal Saviour.

The boys' meeting was good last Sunday. Prof. J. H. Rhorer gave the boys much encouragement.

The open meeting was well attended last Sunday. All took an active part. Subject "Oneness."

Men be on time Sunday ready for hard work and the other man.

Meeting for boys Sunday 4 P. M. at the Y. M. C. A. building.

Chairman Darius Harris will address the men Sunday 5:30 P. M. at the Y. M. C. A. building. Come and bring the other man. Be on time.

Do not forget to have special prayer for the Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. Voluntary Rally is now on. The Blues and Reds are working hard. Lend a helping hand.

Dr. Ramsey's Venture.

Dr. P. B. Ramsey has removed from his residence to the new Mechanics' Savings Bank building. He has furnished his apartment in palatial style and his many visitors say that he has the handsomest offices in the city. During the opening week, he had little opportunities to do business as a surgeon mass of white and colored citizens were constantly there wishing him well and wisdom in fitting up in such an admirable shape. He is located on the second floor. His 'phone number is Monroe 2626.

Builder Farrar There Too.

Contractor D. J. Farrar has leased an office on the fourth floor of the Mechanics' Savings Bank building and Winston & Freeman, plasterers are there with him. They are admirably located.

Dr. Jackson Opens Offices.

Dr. Charles B. Jackson, dentist has leased rooms in the new Mechanics' Savings Bank building on the fourth floor and has furnished them in fine style.

The Equitable Real Estate Co.

The Equitable Real Estate Company, Mr. J. E. Byrd, president, has moved to 402 North Third Street, where it has comfortable and attractive quarters. This is one of the new stores in the Mechanics' Savings Bank building.

Col. Boulding Gone.

We received a telegram from Crewe, Va. announcing the death of Col. Benjamin R. Boulding. He was one of the best known colored men in the state, being identified with many secret orders. He was in the United States Railway Mail service and his death was a shock to his many friends throughout the state.

Business Opportunity.

WANTED—A Reliable Colored Man who can induce people to accept "Uncle Sam's" Cook Book. Given free to every one saving \$1.00 or more. Tells how to reduce living expenses. Pay result producers \$25 to \$50. Address AMERICAN BANKER, care Carrier 59.

IS CUT IN TWO EATING MELONS

Unloading Freight from Car, Stops to Satisfy Hunger—Is Killed.

Lee Neal, colored, of Nineteenth and Grace Streets, was cut in two last night under a freight car loaded with watermelons in the yards of the Seaboard Air Line, at Fifteenth and Main Streets. His mangled body was found early this morning, and after viewing it, Coroner Taylor deemed an inquest unnecessary.

Two watermelons were found lying near his body.

Neal was the trusted porter of Edward L. Frost and Company, commission merchants at 1315 East Cary Street. He admitted yesterday morning that he had taken a drink of whiskey but as this was not unusual Mr. Frost sent the man out to unload a car of melons. About noon he asked to be let off for awhile and this was the last Mr. Frost saw of him alive.

The negro had the key to the car of melons and was seen last night about 9 o'clock in the railroad yard near the car. The railroad people say the car was shifted about 9 o'clock.

The negro's employers do not know how the accident happened. The supposition is that Neal went to the car last night about 9 o'clock and secured two melons. He may have slumped down on the track with the intention of eating one of the melons when the shifting train knocked him down and his body was run over.

Mr. Frost said this morning that he is satisfied, had nothing happened to the man, he would have reported to-day that he took the two melons. They say they had always found him honest.

When discovered this morning the upper part of the negro's body was under the car the legs on the outside of the track two wheels of the car having passed over the body. One arm was also crushed to pieces.

A large crowd of people assembled and remained near the grove some sight until about 7:30 o'clock, when the body was removed to an undertaker's to be prepared for burial.—News-Leader, July 7, 1910.